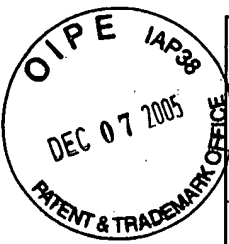


TFW
2613



| AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER | | | Docket No. 0649-0810P |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Application No. 09/894,214-Conf. #4819 | Filing Date June 27, 2001 | Examiner T. T. Vo | Art Unit 2613 |

Applicant(s): Hideki INOMATA et al.

Invention: PICTURE CODING APPARATUS, AND PICTURE CODING METHOD

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.
 The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Previously Paid | Number Extra Claims Present | Rate | |
| Total Claims | 15 | - 20 = | | x | |
| Independent Claims | 3 | - 3 = | | x | |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | |
| Other fee (please specify): | | | | | |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: | | | | | 0.00 |

- ☒ Large Entity ☐ Small Entity
- ☒ No additional fee is required for this amendment.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____.
 A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-2448
 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.


 Michael R. Cammarata
 Attorney Reg. No.: 39,491

Dated: December 7, 2005

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
 8110 Gatehouse Road
 Suite 100 East
 P.O. Box 747
 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
 (703) 205-8000



Docket No.: 0649-0810P
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hideki INOMATA et al.

Application No.: 09/894,214

Confirmation No.: 4819

Filed: June 27, 2001

Art Unit: 2613

For: PICTURE CODING APPARATUS, AND
PICTURE CODING METHOD

Examiner: T. T. Vo

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Due: December 7, 2005

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 7, 2005, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Remarks.